

# Unintentional Injuries and Violence Among Florida Public High School Students



Results from the 2007 Florida Youth Risk Behavior Survey

\*Fact Sheet 1\*

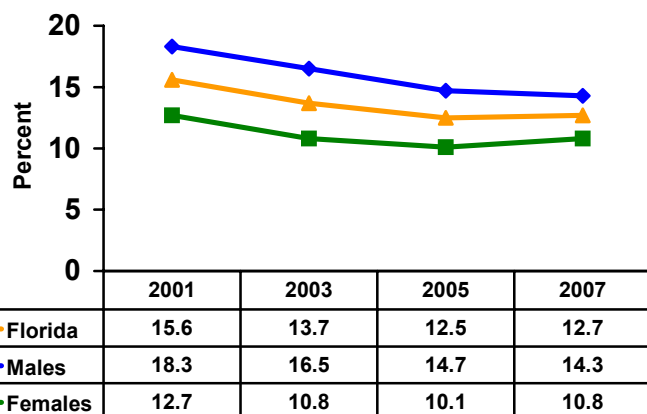
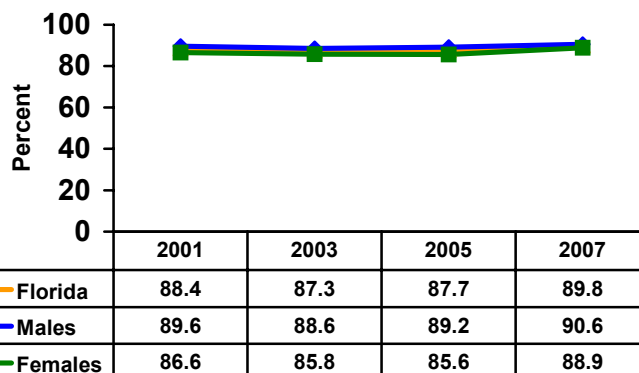
## Introduction

The Florida Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) is a self-administered, school-based anonymous survey that has been conducted in Florida public high schools every two years since 1991. It is part of a national survey effort led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to monitor priority health risk behaviors that contribute markedly to the leading causes of death, disability, and social problems among youth in the United States. In 2007, 4,523 students in 69 public high schools in Florida completed the YRBS. The overall response rate was 61 percent. Since 2001, the response rate has been high enough for the data to be weighted to represent all Florida public high school students.



## Never or rarely wore bicycle helmets

In 2007, among students who rode a bicycle during the past 12 months, approximately 478,200 students (89.8%) never or rarely wore bicycle helmets. This prevalence did not change significantly in Florida from 2001 to 2007. Females consistently had a lower prevalence of this behavior than males.

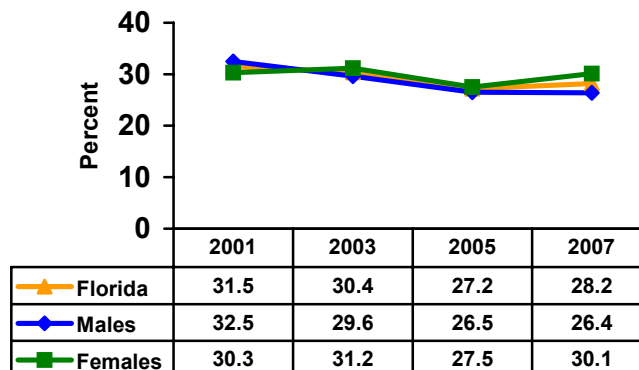


## Never or rarely wore seatbelts in a vehicle driven by someone else

Approximately 101,100 students (12.7%) never or rarely wore a seat belt in 2007. This prevalence decreased significantly by 18.6% from 2001 to 2007. Females consistently had a lower prevalence of this behavior than males.

## Rode with a driver who had been drinking alcohol

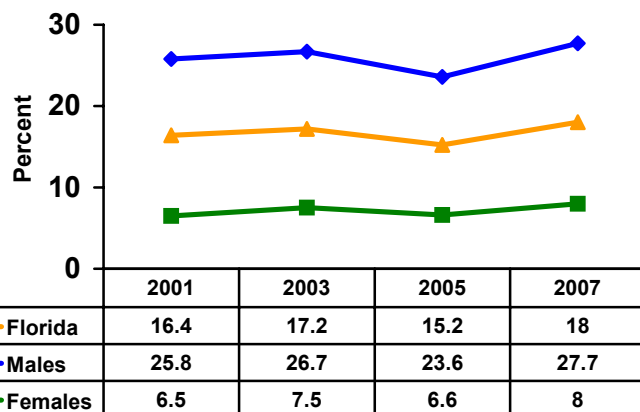
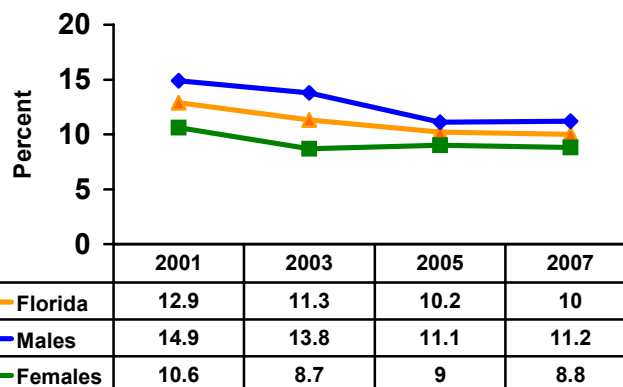
In 2007, approximately 224,500 students (28.2%) rode in a car or other vehicle at least once during the past 30 days when someone who had been drinking alcohol was driving. This prevalence decreased significantly by 10.5% from 2001 to 2007. Males had a lower prevalence of this behavior than females in all years except 2001.



**Drove after drinking alcohol**

In 2007, approximately 79,200 students (10.0%) drove a car or other vehicle when they had been drinking alcohol one or more times during the past 30 days. This prevalence decreased significantly by 22.5% from 2001 to 2007.

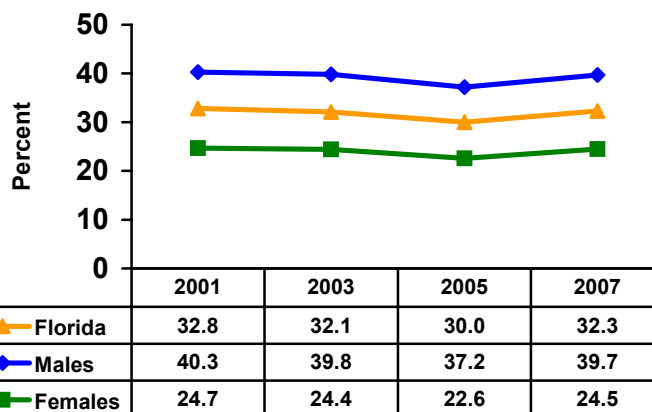
Females consistently had a lower prevalence of this behavior than males.

**Carried a weapon**

In 2007, approximately 140,400 students (18.0%) carried a weapon, such as a gun, knife, or club, on one or more of the past 30 days. This prevalence did not change significantly from 2001 to 2007. Females consistently had a lower prevalence of this behavior than males.

**Involved in a physical fight**

In 2007, approximately 253,900 students (32.3%) were involved in a physical fight one or more times during the past 12 months. This prevalence did not change significantly from 2001 to 2007. Females consistently had a lower prevalence of this behavior than males.



For more information about the YRBS, please contact: Ms. Jamie Weitz, M.S., Florida Youth Survey Coordinator, at (850) 245-4444, Ext. 2424, or by e-mail at [Jamie.Weitz@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Jamie.Weitz@doh.state.fl.us) or visit our website at: [http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease\\_ctrl/epi/Chronic\\_Disease/YRBS/Intro.htm](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease_ctrl/epi/Chronic_Disease/YRBS/Intro.htm). For an interactive database of YRBS data, visit the CDC's YRBS web site at: [www.cdc.gov/yrbs](http://www.cdc.gov/yrbs). This document was developed by the Bureau of Epidemiology for the Florida Coordinated School Health Program in Cooperation with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Adolescent and School Health Project Number U87-CCU433630-05.